THE MERIDIAN
SWAVESEY

No. 187 December/January 2021

Swavesey Community Orchard

Tree Location & Variety

1. COX'S ORANGE PIPPIN
2. HEREFORDSHIRE RUSSET
3. JARGONELLE
4. LADY HENNIKER
5. LAXTON'S SUPERB
6. BROWN'S
7. ASHMEAD'S KERNEL
8. RIBSTON PIPPIN
9. CATILLAC
10. CONFERENCE
11. CONCORDE
12. WILLIAMS' BON CHRETIEN
13. NEWTON WONDER
14. WORCESTER PEARMAIN
15. BLENHEIM ORANGE
16. HOWGATE WONDER
17. KING'S ACRE PIPPIN
18. HUMBUG (STRIPY)
19. BLACK WORCESTER
20. MARJORIE'S SEEDLING
21. PURPLE PERSHORE
22. DABINETT
23. PEASGOOD'S NONSUCH
24. ST EDMUND'S RUSSET
25. BRAMLEY ORIGINAL
26. ELLISON'S ORANGE
27. JAMES GRIEVE
28. COE'S GOLDEN DROP
29. RIVER'S EARLY PROLIFIC
30. VICTORIA
31. OLD GREEN GAGE
32. MERRYWEATHER
33. KING OF THE PIPPINS
34. EGREMONT RUSSET
35. AYLESBURY PRUNE
36. WILLINGHAM GAGE
37. WARWICKSHIRE DROOPER
38. SERBIAN GOLD
39. CAMBRIDGE GAGE
40. KING OF THE DAMSONS

EDITORIAL

A lot of you might be wondering what happened to the article on Edinburgh that I flagged up in the last issue? well here it is now, space as you know is always at a premium and we did not have room for it.

Plenty for you in this issue - sadly not much of the usual information regarding Christmas events as at time of writing big communal events are still a no-no, somehow sitting in the lounge singing carols via Zoom does not have much appeal, yes you can sing but where is the atmosphere?

If things change between now and December we will post them on the magazine website which we update frequently. If you are online but know someone who is not perhaps you could pass on anything relevant to them?

Please can I remind you that **ALL** articles requests for inclusion in the magazine, need to come to me the editor? I know how much free space there is likely to be once we have allowed for our regular entries we cannot "just add an extra page" as the size of the magazine means one extra page turns into 4 extra pages all to do with paper sizes!

The deadline for the Feb/March issue is **20 December** please.

The Meridian team wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Editor

Cover Image - Winter Lake by Edwin Parish
Inside Front Cover - Swavesey Orchard - Tree Varieties
Inside Back Cover - Flowers in the Orchard
Back Cover - Frozen Lake by Simon Shore

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Major Events List

This list is intended to avoid major events clashing on the same day. It will only work if we are advised of all such events, so please let us know as soon as you can confirm the details.

A form is available at the back of this magazine. We will list them in this section of the Magazine and also on our website at www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk

No Major Events in this issue owing to Covid 19

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December		
Thursday 3	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Thursday 10	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Thursday 17	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Thursday 24	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
January		
Monday 4	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin Only (NOTE MONDAY)
Saturday 9	Refuse Collection	Black Bin (NOTE SATURDAY)
Friday 15	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins (NOTE FRIDAY)
Thursday 21	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection

ARTICLES

We love to have your articles to put in The Meridian for others to share BUT PLEASE only send them to me the EDITOR. why?

Simply because I know what is coming for each issue and what regular reports etc. we will have coming in so I can then balance the content so we do not have too much of any one subject.

It also allows me to proof read when items arrive rather than waiting for the proof copy and gives Alan more time to set out articles rather than having to do corrections.

We try our best to feature the fascinating things you send us but sometimes we run out of space and we have to keep page numbers down to keep costs down and allow us to keep dropping your magazine through your door for free!

(There is no problem with the online version)

Many Thanks

Your Editor

editor@swaveseymeridian.org.uk

GOT SOMETHING FOR THE NEXT ISSUE?

DEADLINE FOR THE FEB/MARCH ISSUE IS 20 DECEMBER!

CLUB REPORTS

Swavesey Camera Club

ZOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM

Regular readers of this page might have noticed that your usual correspondent was absent. No, not fallen under a bus or returned to Wales (locked out in any case), it was nothing more than pure cowardice. Being the least technical member of our whole club, chickened out when we went onto Zoom, hadn't a clue, so handed it over to our super-efficient Programme Secretary, Ray, (many thanks!) However, by now seeing everyone using it for working from home, family contact and all the news programmes on telly, decided that it couldn't be all that difficult even for a dinosaur like me. Hmm!

First night of our Programme pressed the link and it worked a treat, straight in, very enjoyable seeing everyone after months. Then it was time to sign off and no-one had told me how to leave??? Decided to turn the whole thing off, by then it was black screen, cover on and I could still hear Simon, Mike and Ray chatting away.

Next time they could all see me but I couldn't see them. Prodded all over the screen and all that happened was the camera turned round to show the whole club the busy mess of the dining table: candlesticks, fruit bowl, notebook and pens and a coffee mug.

It is unlikely that any of you are similarly incompetent, so please do try to join into our Zoom meetings which are very entertaining and enjoyable. The distinct advantage of these Zoom meetings is that the usual restrictions of distance and travel expenses are no more, so we can have speakers from as far afield as Yorkshire. Due to aforesaid cowardice you will not have been told about our November talks about Architecture and Textiles unless you looked them up on our website. In December, we have just one talk, on the 3rd, "The Lake District through the Seasons "by John Craven, which might be just the thing for all of us stuck in at home, then on January 14th, we have Lizzie Shepherd's "Mood v. Composition". The rest of our programme lists nearly all of our seasonal social events; don't know how these will go on, raising a glass of plonk to the screen, bring your own mince pie? We shall see.

Meanwhile, if anyone wants to join us for these highly recommended Zoom talks please press the Contact button on oy does anyone know how to correct the name under an image on the Zoom screen? Apparently, at the moment my picture space is taken up by some person called I. Pad, (Imogen, Imelda, Isadora? Your guess is as good as mine)

Mo Hadfield,
Swavesey Camera Club www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk

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Swavesey W I

Wish all their members and friends a very Happy Christmas and Happy New Year

For more information see Meridian Magazine and Notice board

Swavesey Festival 100 Club

Three winners each month receive £60 or £30 or £15.
To take part in this popular competition phone Gill Hurst 01954 200470. Latest winners are;

	£	September 20	October 20
First prize	60	Vicki Bidwell	Hilary Syddell
Second prize	30	Michael Reddish	Natasha Karelina
Third prize	15	Dave Hackshaw	Jane Handy

Hale Road Allotments

A big thank you to Swavesey residents

On behalf of the allotment association I would like to thank all those residents who supported our produce day on September 5th making it our most successful yet. It was held for the first time in Market street fully socially distanced with hand sanitizer available and more residents were able to attend without the trek down Hale road. It was a pleasant day weather wise and we were able to offer a variety of fruit and vegetables from Apples to Zucchini. The one exception was runner beans which were in short supply due to an early crop and the winds in late August. The plants decided to shut down if they were not blown down. In addition to fruit and vegetables we sold about 70 jars of jams, pickles and chutney all home made from allotment produce. For the first time one of our plot holders made individual rhubarb crumbles which proved very popular. We were asked if we could do this more regularly and it will be a topic of discussion for the new committee. The suggestion was possibly mid July when a different range of produce would be available. The proceeds of the produce sale go towards the upkeep of the allotment site which is acknowledged to be one of the best kept in the area.

When this article is published the AGM will have happened. Due to the current situation we are holding it on Zoom and only essentials such as Treasurer's report acceptance and election of officers will be on the Agenda. Any changes in personnel will be notified in the next edition of Meridian but in the meantime the current numbers will be useable.

Autumn is one of the most bracing times of the year on the Allotment, there is nothing like a dig on a cool (but not windy) October/November day. It is a time when clearing and digging to take advantage of the winter frosts breaking up the soil will make cultivation next year easier. It is also time to plant garlic and broad beans for early summer harvest. Many of us will be waiting for the first frost so we can start harvesting leeks, parsnips and brussel sprouts which taste so much nicer after a frost.

So if in future years anyone wants to join in the bracing Autumn dig then get your name down on our waiting list, details in the club section.

Russell, chairman

GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL IS BACK!!!!!!!!

Hopefully, by the time you read this, our teams will still be playing football and COVID lockdown has not hit us again.

As a club we have worked hard to make sure all training sessions and matches are covered by thorough risk assessments and we have followed the strict FA guidelines. I'd like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to the committee members who allowed us to get all 16 teams back to training safely, thus allowing over 350 children to get back to some sort of 'normality'. It has been wonderful to see all the players out training and playing again with smiles on their faces and away from their devices.

With the new season well underway, we would like to wish all our teams the best of luck. We are not sure what the season will bring but hopefully it will be a fun and enjoyable one.

Swavesey Spartans are respecting government and FA guidance and we will be trying to make sure there is a sufficient gap between matches so please look out for new start times for matches.

Our coaches will have sent out the clubs guidelines for match days to all parents/ players so please make sure you and your child have read all the required information sent to you.

We at Swavesey Spartans are passionate about grassroots football, our ethos is all about players having fun alongside their friends as well as developing themselves as individuals and staying in football, hopefully with the club for years to come.

The FA endorse the respect initiative and although we think of players and coaches in this regard, we must also include the match officials, some are only a few years older than the team they are officiating, it takes a lot of courage for some to step up and become a referee.

We have recently started a mixed U6/U7 training session on Wednesdays and it is great to see around 20 boys and girls attending each week. We are also looking to start a girls U8s team so if you have a child who is interested please email the club and we will send out the relevant information.

We have exciting plans for the club and our training facilities over the coming months and I look forward to sharing them with you in future issues of the Meridian magazine.

Enjoy the return to grassroots football!!!

Last and by all means least, with Christmas around the corner we hope you have a wonderful time and 2021 is a better year all round.

Swavesey Chairperson

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Swavesey Squash Club

Once a busy hub of activity, over the last few years the Swavesey Squash Club has seen a fall-off in membership and, with lack of funding, a general deterioration. However, with a new committee and local support, it has embarked on a programme of refurbishment, transforming the club into a modern and inviting venue, providing squash playing facilities and activities to local people.

As well as the on-going infrastructure improvements, the committee has appointed Cambridgeshire County Champion, Ali Loke, a Level 3 England Squash coach, and world ranked number 76, to manage the club. Working within COVID guidelines, she is providing individual coaching; running group training sessions, suitable for all levels of player; and organising ladies' nights. All of these are ideal opportunities for players resuming after lockdown, and who want to develop their games; they also provide great opportunities to meet other club members. She is also running our box leagues, which are an ideal way to meet players of your own level, and test yourself out in a competitive but friendly setting.

We have also modernised and updated our on-line presence, including an on-line booking system, new website, and launching social media pages. This included a rebrand to 'Swavesey Squash Club', replacing the misleading name 'Fenland Squash Club'.

Unfortunately the onset of COVID, and consequent restrictions, has forced us to postpone a programme of community launch events, including open days, courses, and exhibitions, However, we are still welcoming any interested members of the community on an individual basis, and we welcome you to get in touch with Ali (contact details below).

Why not give it a go? Playing squash is a great way to get some exercise while having fun, to meet new people, and to learn new skills.

Get in touch:
www.swaveseysquash.com
Email: li@alilokesquash.com
Phone: 07776 176866

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An update from Fen Drayton Lakes

Visitors to Fen Drayton Lakes between spring and autumn will likely have seen at least one of the cattle herds grazing around some of the reserve lakes. This grazing is one of the most important tools at our disposal for managing our wetland habitats and mimics the actions of large, native herbivores that would once have been common.

Cattle on Ferry Mere - Simon Freedman

Cattle eat by wrapping their tongues around grasses and other vegetation and pulling it up in clumps. This creates an uneven, patchy sward consisting of tussocks and differing plant heights. They are also good at trampling the lake edges to create mud and small pools and pushing their way through denser scrub to create open areas. By grazing the wet grassland around the lakes with cattle we provide suitable nesting habitat for breeding waders such as lapwing and redshank, as well as maintaining the areas for wintering waders and wildfowl.

Interesting sightings

September is always a good month for bird watching with many migratory species on the move. Regular birders at Fen Drayton Lakes were rewarded for their efforts this year with several good sightings including whinchat, spotted flycatcher, wheatear, redstart, wryneck and osprey.

Away from the briefly seen migrants, wintering species are starting to build up with wigeon and teal once more on site. Bittern have also been seen more regularly on Elney and in flight between lakes.

Events

Under current circumstances, we are not running any events at present.

Volunteering

Whatever your interests are, there is likely to be a volunteering role to suit. For information about volunteering opportunities at Fen Drayton Lakes, please get in touch.

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk
Phone: 01954 233260

Visit **rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes**

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654

With the cancellation of Artime's exhibition at the Community Centre, Over, their paintings this year may be viewed on line at artime-over.webador.co.uk

With some for sale, snap up an early Christmas present, or just enjoy over a cuppa.

MISCELLANY

RECYCLED TEENAGER

Typical! Gets up later every morning, puts on an un-ironed T-shirt, (who is going to see it under this jumper?), an old pair of jeans, old boots and socks that have been washed so often they don't actually match colour-wise any more. Then it is nose down into social media for the rest of the day, interspersed with hour-long phone calls to friends. Occasionally hunger produces an urgent need to forage in the kitchen cupboards, probably, for speed, a Mars Bar and a bag of crisps.

Recognisable? Your average teenager? Wrong! Me in lockdown, and I bet I am not alone. I'm sure there are many of us elderly who have been reduced to slobbiness by being home alone for the last few months. After all it would only be for a very short time. It wouldn't hurt, Standards would be easily restored, wouldn't they, once restrictions were lifted in the near future.

Unfortunately not being a real teenager I don't have a caring mother to tell me to snap out of it, and pull my socks up, (literally and Metaphorically). Those of you in the village who remember my mother, the immaculate and stylish Myfanwy, would know she would soon have read me the riot act. Unfortunately for us all, she is no longer with us, and I doubt that even she would have the strength to do so, as she would now be one hundred and seven years old.

Yes, of course restrictions were lifted by mid-summer and standards returned. Un-ironed T-shirts are fair enough to mess around your house, but you can't visit your friends in slob mode, can you, even if you can only meet in their garden. Now here we go again. A distinct feeling of Deja vu.

Winter resolution : Don't go down that road again.

BUT, meanwhile must check my iPad for breaking news; check the Swavesey Village pages before all those lovely things on offer are snapped up; when is the Post Office open? Is anyone cruising the village in a van? Did they find their cat? Must remember to call my sister, my grandchildren, my daughter, my son, my nephew, my niece, all my friends I can't see in Wales, and email those in USA, Spain. India, Germany, Oxford, Sheffield, Lewes, Bodmin, Devises, and London of course.

Damn! It's three o'clock, have missed lunch again. Does anyone know if KitKats are a healthier option than Mars Bars?

Mo Hadfield.

SWAVESEY LIBRARY IS OPEN EVERY SATURDAY MORNING 10 TO 12 NOON

The library offers:

SELECT & COLLECT the new library service*

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Sorry no browsing

***The `Select & Collect' service is operated through the Cambridgeshire Library service, see web site for details.**
https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Select_and_Collect

****If you would like to use the `Swavesey Loan Service' please email/phone Richard94.hart@virgin.net / 01954 202707 or Doughuntuk@yahoo.co.uk / 01954 232478**

Swavesey Library is based in the Village College, its entrance can be found by following the library signs from the Village College front car park.

Lockdown in Swavesey Sheltered Housing Community

Lockdown in March due to the Pandemic made us think hard about different ways in which we could continue to function as a close and caring community. We knew that we would just have to get on with life, albeit in a very different way.

We were unable to meet up at our regular Tuesday coffee mornings in our community room, so we chatted to each other from outside our front doors, coffee cup in hand. Thursdays was Fish and Chips lunch day! This was provided by Darren and Shelley at the White Horse pub and delivered to our doorsteps by Stuart and John. Sally kindly arranged this each week. On Thursday evenings we all came out to join the country in clapping for the NHS. One of our residents, Ann, has been working hard in a local surgery.

Some residents missed their days at Over Day Centre and the activities in our community room. Darren missed going to work, going swimming, and watching football. Tom compiled a list of everyone's contact details including contact numbers if we needed help at any time. This was a great help for keeping in touch with everyone, and much appreciated.

Many residents made the most of the beautiful spring and summer by tending to their gardens and enjoying the peace and beauty therein. Pam was inspired to paint pictures of the flowers in her garden as they bloomed during this time. She was delighted to have re-discovered her love of painting. She said that she had missed many things that should have happened in her life since Covid 19 began, but now she will always have painting.

VE day in May was a big highlight, and a chance for us all to get together safely to celebrate! Tracey and others made everywhere look very colourful and festive by putting lots of bunting and flags around. We all tucked into delicious cakes and scones. DJ Nigel kindly provided us with speakers and Ann sorted the music. Malcolm Crisp typed up some song sheets for everyone, and he brought along an old record player and some records from the 1940's. We all enjoyed singing along to the wartime songs. Vivienne Crisp brought along photographs of Martha, one of our residents, in her Air Force uniform. Geraldine treated us by playing some tunes from the era on her violin. Margaret especially enjoyed VE day. She said that celebrating times like this help to keep people going. Older residents were given flowers.

We enjoyed a barbecue in the summer organised by Ann, Terry and Sally. We were lucky with our surroundings during lockdown, as most of us look out onto a square with shady trees surrounded by roses. Many of us have missed our dear families and friends and special times that have been cancelled during lockdown. We look forward to being able to enjoy those times again.

We were very lucky to have the support of our carers, Age UK, and Libby our estate officer. Thanks also to Swavesey Surgery and our local shops – Londis and Swavesey Newsagents, and the White Horse pub. Last, but not least, Swavesey Together and all their volunteers. They made each and every one of us feel that we were not alone.

We send best wishes to everyone – Stay well and keep safe.

MORE ABOUT THE MANOR OF SWAVESEY (Part 3)

The manor was really a village and the centre was the Manor House.

PEOPLE – There were several classes of people.

Landowners.

Clergy.

Freemen – paying a fixed rent.

Socmen or yeomen – paying a fixed rent or giving services.

Villeins – or copyholders – with an average holding of 30 acres. Villeins could not leave the village without permission.

Cottars or small copyholders – with an average holding of 5 acres plus a cottage and a garden.

Bondsmen - serfs – had no land and perhaps no house. They would live on the edge of the village working for those who could pay pence or give them food.

The private land was the Lord of the Manor's and was called the demesne.

CRAFTSMEN AND SPECIALIST JOBS – These were blacksmith, brewer, beekeeper, miller, ploughman, shepherd, swineherd, warrener ((checked rabbits), daye (dairy) and sower.

PRIEST – As Swavesey had a Priory and a Church built on land gifted by Alan de la Zouche this meant the village would have its own priest.

People paid 1/10 of their income to the church, this was called a tithe.

There were 100 Holy days each year.

HOUSES – These were cruck built, usually 4 pairs of wooden crucks along the length of the house and along the top. The walls were timber stakes and wattles would be woven in and then covered with daub.

The house would have one large room open to the thatch of straw or turf or reeds with a central fire hole in the roof. The floor would be stamped earth covered in rushes. Windows were holes with shutters. Furniture was made by the man himself and would consist of wooden tables, stools and dishes. Beds were laid out each night and were bags filled with straw, heather and bracken. People slept in their clothes and used animal skins as blankets.

CRUCK – a pair of curved timbers planted in the ground and spaced so that the curves met at the top to make the edge of the roof.

COOKING – There would be a large pot on a tripod over a fire in a clay lined fireplace. This pot also served as a bath for the children.

LIGHT – Light came in through the window space. Artificial light was a rush (a type of reed) set in a bowl of tallow and lit from the fire. Wax candles were only for the rich.

WATER – Water came from a river or well.

LAVATORY – A hole in the ground.

ANIMALS – The family would have 1 or 2 cows, 2or 3 sheep, 2pigs and chickens.

CLOTHES – All the clothes were made by women. They washed and cleaned the wool, then spun it into thread with distaff and spindle and finally wove the thread into cloth which would be canvas or fustian which is a mixture of canvas and wool. A hat would be made of leather and worn as a protection against the rain.Children wore the same type of clothing as the adults.Girls generally plaited their hair and covered their heads when older.Boys wore their hair shoulder length or shorter and a soft woollen cap in winter.

Clothes were drab as only vegetable dyes were used, giving browns, greens, yellows and dark reds. Red and pink from beetroot and ivy berries, blue from blackberries and elderberries, brown from rhubarb leaves and oak bark and green from privet leaves and nettles.

Only wealthy people changed their clothes. Most people wore the same clothes all the time and did not wash them very often.

Shoes were of the soft moccasin type in leather. Clog overshoes were there for wet weather but wet feet were always a problem.

SUMPTUARY LAWS –These laws told people what they could wear and this was according to their position in life. In 1363 Edward ordered that people owning less than £2 worth of goods must only wear clothes made of blanket and russet wool worth 5p. If the law was broken by anyone and they were caught, the clothes went to the king.

FOOD – There were 2 meals a day. The first, at 10.00 for the villagers returning from the fields. In summer there would be fresh meat, bread, cheese and ale. On a Friday and meatless days ordered by the church there would be fish from a pond. In winter when food was scarce meals would consist of salted meat, bacon and bread made from rye oats, peas and beans when the wheat ran out.

In the evening there would be potage cooked in an iron pot hung over the fire and served on trenchers – thick slices of bread. Each housewife made her own bread. There was no sugar, honey was used for sweetening. Many animals were killed in the autumn and the meat preserved. Only some were kept through the winter to provide breeding stock because of the small amount of hay.

Potage, a thick soup or stew made by boiling vegetables and grains Meat was cut with a dagger and eaten with fingers, there were no forks.

SPORTS AND GAMES – After going to church people enjoyed themselves with music, singing, games and dancing. Men and boys would practise archery for when they had to follow their lord to war. They would also kick footballs up and down the village and round the houses.

Games of chess, draughts and Nine Men's Morris were played on chequered boards. Some of the villagers would dress up and act plays. There were mummers. Some of the dancers had bells on their ankles and sticks in their hands. These were the Morris Dancers.

GOLDEN WEDDING – EDINBURGH - COVID 19

Not being party people, Selwyn and I decided we would commemorate our Golden Wedding in August with a few days in Edinburgh where we spent part of our honeymoon 50 years ago. Early in the year we began the preparations. We booked a hotel on the Royal Mile and booked to watch the Military Tattoo at the Castle one evening. In 1970 we didn't see an evening performance (we have since), but then we saw the rehearsal of the 1812 Overture complete with cannons from the battlements. We thought we would leave booking travel and restaurants until later in the year.

Then came the pandemic! Suddenly everything was up in the air. First to go was the Tattoo which let us have our money back. We hung on to the hotel booking, hoping that it would be honoured in August, and already having paid! Restaurants were closed and it was unsure when they would be allowed to open again. The attractions we planned to visit may not have been able to admit us. Would our Golden Wedding anniversary be a trip to St. Ives and a takeaway?

As summer began it became clear that we would be able to have a holiday in Edinburgh after all. The hotel contacted us when they knew they would open, although their restaurant would be closed and our breakfast would be delivered outside our room. By the time we arrived in mid-August the restaurant had opened as had their breakfast service, although a breakfast buffet was not allowed. The bedroom was sanitised with the TV remote in a polythene bag. Hand sanitizer was everywhere.

We began to book our two attractions. On our first full day we booked to visit the Royal Yacht Britannia at Leith. On our actual anniversary we decided to book to look round the Castle with memories of 50 years ago. We overheard when at the castle that they were only allowing 1,000 visitors in a day, so booking had been important. Victoria researched three good restaurants within walking distance of our hotel. By the time we went they had only just been allowed to open. In fact, we had to find another only two days before we went as one of our first choices was not allowed to open after all.

We travelled by train from Peterborough to Edinburgh on pre-booked seats. No one was allowed to travel without a reservation and we had to stay in our allocated seats. We had to wear masks throughout, except to eat, until we left the station. We had plenty of room as we had to have a double seat each. We had previously used that service when it was crammed full of people, but now it was peaceful with very few people passing by. An employee passed occasionally sanitizing the handles on top of the seats. Apart from the masks it was quite a pleasant trip. We had taken a taxi from home to Peterborough so we could be sure of catching the Edinburgh train.

Edinburgh was very quiet as the Festival had been cancelled. There were very few people and only a few street entertainers. We had an excellent tour around

the Royal Yacht after taking a bus trip from the Royal Mile to Leith. With only a few people allowed on board at a time we were able to see everything very easily.

Our visit to Edinburgh castle on our actual Anniversary went well. The weather was cloudy, cold, and grey as we remembered from 50 years ago. We had an audio tour, but not everything was open and the café only did takeaways. We watched the 1 o'clock gun being fired from our circle on the ground, distanced from other people. One disappointment was that it being 75th anniversary of VJ Day the Red Arrows were due to fly over the castle. We stood with everyone else expecting the flypast until people heard that it had been cancelled. We presume the cloud cover was too low.

Our restaurants proved excellent and not overcrowded of course. Our discovery walks around Edinburgh proved how steep it is. Victoria had provided us with information on what we should see so we found some places there that were off the beaten track.

We arrived home again after another quiet rail journey and taxi ride. We were so glad we had been able to celebrate our Golden Wedding in a memorable way. Thank goodness we aren't Party People!

Chris Richardson

Where I Grew Up. Hackney, 1946 - Carole Pook

Well here I am back in London. It is 1946. Not that I remember much about being here before, so I don't know whether it's changed or not. There are missing houses, just opposite our house and two doors down the road. I can't remember much about the night that our house got bombed, just my father's blackened face and being frightened. My father tells me that the bomb is why there are missing houses.

There are good things and not so good things about being back here. One good thing is the new doll's pram. Today it would seem very basic, just a shell, with a hood, handle and wheels. The second good thing is the new cat, Bobby. Despite what the old lady down the road says, it is not cruel to take him out in the pram, dressed in doll's clothes. When Bobby gets fed up, he just jumps out of the pram and goes home. I don't mind that, even if he gets his clothes dirty. Later on, when I get the tricycle he is just as happy to go in the basket and we can go down to the swings at the bottom of the road.

The bad things? I miss being in Potters Bar. Even though it was on the Underground it was almost country, with calves at the farm where we bought milk and swans to feed on the pond. Far worse is the nursery school. They make fun of me because I don't know the alphabet, I don't know that the letter U stands for the horrible black umbrella. They say I can only go to the toilet at playtime, so I am horrified to be sitting in wet knickers.

But then I start proper school, Detmold Road. On the way there are a lot more gaps between houses filled with broken bricks and pink weeds. The school is very big, (it is three storeys high, Victorian red brick.) surrounded by a high brick wall enclosing two big playgrounds. I will go through the gate with 1870 Girls and Infants in brick over the top. Another gate says 1870 Boys. The headmistress, whose hand I have bitten when she took me away from my Mummy, promises I can have any peg I like in the cloakroom to hang my coat on. But not the one with the picture of the swan I can remember feeding on the pond, that is already taken because I am late in the term starting. Not the one with the coloured ball, that is also already taken. What is left? The one with the picture of the black umbrella. On my first morning the girl sitting next to me tells me to say "present" when the teacher calls my name. I ask why we don't get one and the girl says she doesn't know, we just have to say it.

I quickly learn to read and then I sit under the table with the green checked tablecloth, with the goldfish tank on top. I read from a Beacon reader with a dull brown cover, but inside are interesting stories about a little black dog. I can write words in a sand tray and make snakes out of khaki plasticine, (but only on Fridays)

After school I go with my Mummy to the shop on the corner of Northwold Road to buy sugar and currants in blue paper bags. We have to hand over our ration books and the man cuts little squares out of them. On the way we pass the big trees painted with a white ring, so you could have seen them in the blackout. Here our milk is delivered by a man with a red United Dairies cart pulled by a horse. On Saturdays when Daddy is home, he will go out with a shovel to collect the horse's droppings to put on his roses. Just sometimes we go to get milk from the dairy near Clapton Pond. This is exciting because the milk comes from a cow with a calf living in a stable that I can visit at the back of the dairy. This reminds me of getting milk from the farm at Potters Bar.

All of the vegetable peelings must go into the pig bucket by the front gate. Someone collects it every week, I am told to feed some pigs. I never see them.

Then we will have the worst winter in living memory and the floods, but that is a different story.

Changing How We Work at Alan's Carpets

I started my carpet fitting career in 1973, working as a trainee fitter for Eaden Lilley, a major department store in Cambridge. *(See letter offering me the job in the Oct/Nov Meridian).* I studied at all of the major Cambridge colleges, fitting carpet and lino there as well as in people's houses and it is fair to say I gained a fair degree of experience. In 1985 around the time my son came into the world I decided to go freelance, working mainly for the John Lewis Partnership as well as for myself.

I was gradually selling and fitting more and more of my own carpets so by 1999 I had enough work to go completely on my own. By 2002 I was looking to expand the business when the premises at 1 to 3 Station Road in Swavesey became available, so we purchased it in 2003 with wife, Ruth, running the shop.

After 17 years of successful trading at the shop we have now decided to change our method of working to a home-select service, which means bringing carpet samples to your home and measuring at the same time for quotation. This we believe will be a more Covid 19 safe operation since after a visit all samples will be sanitised or quarantined.

My son Lee is gradually taking over the business as I now wind down to retire and he hopes he can continue providing a similarly great service for many years to come. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my loyal customers for supporting Alan's Carpets over the years.

Alan Shrimpton, Managing Director, Alans Carpets Limited

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Where I Grew Up - Emily Moore

Growing up in Fort William was a story of two halves. Fort William is a town of two halves. Tourists come to explore the breath-taking scenery. Locals generally strive to explore the rest of the world. You would have Australians and New Zealanders coming for the summer, working and living in the local hotels and at the same time, locals would inadvertently swap places with them.

As a young child it was idyllic, it was a beautifully simple life which is ideal for a child (as we rediscovered during lockdown). We would roam the surrounding hills with complete freedom. I lived up cow hill until the age of 11 with views down over Loch Linnhe and with Ben Nevis l ooking down over us, most of the year being dusted with snow. Clambering over clumps of heather, making dams in the peat bogs and flying down the hill on your bike from Blarmacfoldach after climbing up from the other side.

My Dad was the town developer for Lochaber and my Mum and my best friend opened up a florist shop together. My Dad was called the Laird by some as he was from Edinburgh, had a very posh accent and wore a kilt on Sundays! Someone I worked with for years was shocked that he was my Dad as she was sure he was English. It was very strange for anyone Scottish to wear a kilt for leisure, but he would walk the dog in it, then be straight up a ladder fixing the roof!

In the 80s the demand for bed and breakfast accommodation was huge, so every summer I would sleep in the same room as my Mum and Dad and we'd let out a room in our 3 bed bungalow with one bathroom. I remember having baths in the kitchen sink and sitting in the living room each night listening to stories from our guests who came from all other the world over a cup of tea and shortbread. We then moved down to the Lochside where we could rent out 2 rooms from May to September and explore the shoreline in front of us and woods to the back. I'd get the school bus from across the road which I think came from Glencoe each morning. I had friends who would be on other buses passing by but coming from across the water every morning via the Corran ferry. We also had boarders at our high school from some of the islands as there weren't any nearby secondary schools at the time. I remember a few times where teachers would pass round that Prince Charles would be landing by helicopter in the school car park. I think we were pretty much asked to go and stand at the railings so it would look like we were welcoming him. We didn't really care either way, just wanted a look at the helicopter and hoped we might get to miss a bit of the next lesson!

Secondary school, teenage years, that's where the story changed. What was an idyllic, peaceful childhood changed for me into a longing for more. I would go on shopping trips to Glasgow with friends, but we'd be sat on a bus for 6 hours (round trip) and 4 hours round trip to Inverness. As a result, my children will never hear the end of my moaning about long car journeys with nothing more than a comic or the same cassette listened to over and over again. The amount

of places we can go to in a day from Swavesey is amazing to me, so many taking less than an hour or even half hour. As a teenager I didn't realise how amazing it was to be able to go skiing at the weekend or climb Ben Nevis.

Fort William had its fair share of interesting stories and visitors. We had the whole royal family come up on Britannia once, sailing past our house with Fergie, Diana and others flying up by helicopter. We also had the filming of Braveheart and Rob Roy when I was a teenager. I've got lots of friends in the background in Braveheart. I was very sensible and didn't go for the auditions as it was around exam time, but I did clean Mel Gibson's hotel room!

For all its downsides, mainly being in the middle of nowhere, it is one of the most beautiful areas I've ever seen. I've not been back for 14 years, but I look forward to giving my kids a local's guided tour of all the secret beauty spots I know, and watching them play in the soldier pools in the rivers…..if it's not pouring rain, that is!

Bike Ride Update

The last few months have been strange for everyone, but the new normal is here and we have been making the most of it!

As winter draws ever closer, with the date of Grandpa's passing also coming up, we have found ourselves with more motivation than ever to boost our training even more ready for our cycle next year. The colder days and early nights have pushed Alex and Luke to train multiple times a week on their indoor trainers, with both following programmes designed in improve fitness and endurance. Not only will this benefit them physically, but it also provides an escape from work and has emphasised how important physically activity is to our mental health. Calum has moved to Birmingham to begin teacher training and is riding to work each day, further improving his fitness. The hope is that after these programmes, we can all push to increase the power we can exert on the bike to make the mountainous climbs that little bit easier next year!

For those who don't know, we will be riding Coast to Coast through the Pyrenees in 2021 to raise money for Alzheimer's Research UK in memory of our late Grandpa, Colin. This will be a huge challenge for us, but one we know Grandpa will be proud of us for taking on. If you would like to donate, please visit www.justgiving.com/caluexchf.

We'd like to thank the Meridian once again for their continued support and we look forward to giving you another update soon, with some exciting news coming in the new year regarding donations and apparel!

Surrounded by Water – Almost

Part 1. The 1947 Floods. A Torrent of Darkness

The wind was a torrent of darkness among the bending trees. The moon was a ghostly galleon, tossed upon cloudy seas. A terrible gale was rushing in from the west, blowing down trees everywhere, demolishing telegraph poles, blowing the roofs off farm buildings and knocking over chimney stacks on numerous houses in the southern fens. Many local people were too afraid to go to bed because of the risk of a chimney pot crashing through the bedroom ceiling. It was the evening of Sunday 16 March 1947 and during the night the river Great Ouse burst its southern bank just north of Brownshill Staunch and a wall of water poured into Over Fen. The worst flood of the 20th century had begun.

The East Anglian Fens had flooded often throughout history and even within living memory there had been a great flood only ten years earlier, in 1937. After that, plans were drawn up to strengthen the riverbanks but eighteen months later the country was at war, so the work was never started, and the task was not revisited by 1947.

In 1946 there was a prolonged period of wet weather from June to November. Hay making and cereal harvesting were difficult and autumn work on the local heavy land was delayed. Wheat yields were slightly above average, but grain quality was poor although sugar beet yields were the highest ever recorded at 26 tonnes/ha on average because of the wet growing season (today, in 2020 the annual average yield is around 75 tonnes/ha). December weather was cold and unsettled then on 23 January 1947 severe frost set in which persisted for just over six weeks. Blizzards and heavy falls of snow occurred until the first half of March right over the country by which time 6 million sheep and 30 thousand cattle perished across England.

Throughout the six weeks of extremely frosty weather there were exceptional falls of snow and a vast part of the rainfall which had fallen as snow stayed where it had fallen on frozen ground. The snow was 2 or 3 metres deep on the higher ground of the Great Ouse's catchment in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. Then on 10 March the rapid thaw began in the Swavesey area and it was accompanied by even heavier rain. The melted snow ran across frozen ground and entered the rivers which simply could not move it away to the sea.

On Wednesday 12 March water from neighbouring villages was flooding into Swavesey both overland and along the two main watercourses, Covell's Drain in the west and Swavesey Drain in the east, and by Friday 14th it was also flowing over the bank of the Great Ouse directly into Swavesey along much of the northern edge of the parish. By Sunday 16 March, the flood level in Swavesey village was already the highest ever known.

Meanwhile, there was a short delay while the waters gathered and came rolling down the rivers. In the Great Ouse at Brownshill Staunch in Over Fen the discharge of water was 50% higher than ever previously recorded with the height of the water about a metre above the previous record. Then the rush of water came

very swiftly. At the Fen Drainage Office in Ely, the control centre for the area, it was obvious that an extraordinary flood was on its way. Already by the evening of 13 March Cottenham Lode was the first watercourse to start to overflow its banks and a gang of men hurried there with bags of clay to hold it back. The order then went out to patrol all the riverbanks.

By Saturday 15th the whole organisation of the Great Ouse Catchment Board, reinforced by men from farms and villages and by large numbers of German prisoners-of-war, was working at full stretch and continued working throughout the night. Ominously, on Sunday morning the wind began to freshen then blow harder until it reached gale force when darkness arrived. Average wind speed, measured at Oakington airfield, was 67 miles per hour with one gust recorded at 98 miles per hour. During that night of 16th March, the river Great Ouse breached into Over Fen. Over the next ten days 4,000 hectares (10,000 acres) in the local area were flooded.

Looking along Over Road when the floods were at their highest. The station is in the centre with St Andrew's church on an island slightly above at right. The flooded area in the distance is land beyond Moat Way and to the south of Hale Road.

For more dramatic pictures of the floods that help illustrate this article look at our website www.swaveseyeridian/.org.uk. These were taken by John Shepperson BEM, thank you John for letting us use them.

The next instalment will report the frantic struggle against the water on a stormy night

Ed

Overcote River Bank and Park Enhancement

Update

With the completion of phase one of work and most of the new grass established, to landscape the area, Over Parish Council is delighted to see so many and varied enjoyments of the Overcote river site.

Some group and individual activity is long-standing; other users are new; many are making more use of the improved facilities, especially with the glorious weather we have enjoyed.

With grants and funds from Council precept, the enhancements include:

- a new stronger slipway to replace the current broken one, enjoyed by many boat and dingy owners, quite a few open-swimming groups and, recently, a regional triathletes event.
- a new gravel-beach area with reinforced river bank, used by many canoe, kayak and paddleboard users for safer and easier access to the river; and picnics when the grass areas is wet.
- a new grass-infill path from the gravel beach area to two fishing platforms, enjoyed by many for accessible viewing of the river, wildlife and fishing.
- a new parking area, so that vehicles may avoid the grass areas in wet times .
- replaced roadway, with the addition of a passing place, to replace the many ruts in the old surface.

Overcote has also become a more attractive area for dog walkers, walking groups, book & art groups and family picnics, who meet for leisure and social occasions.

Next year, for phase two with funds from new precept, the plan is to replace the remaining roadway and turning circle, and appreciating how the site is now used, a wider roadway from the new parking area to the slipway and gravel beach so that vehicles will not cut up the area where the new grass did not establish due to traffic ingress. This has created much of the mud which the recent flood has deposited on the roadway. In the meantime, could vehicles please keep to the new parking area and new roadway, in these months with heavy rain or flood. With expected rain, we hope that the mud on the roadway will be washed away. Where vehicles have kept to the parking area and roadway, the new surface has managed well with the elements.

We hope that individuals, families and groups will continue to very much enjoy the Overcote site.

Swavesey Community Orchard

By the time you read this, the Swavesey Community Orchard will have been active on Church Green for just over 12 months. In November 2019, we had a great gathering of more than 100 Swavesey residents including families with children who joined forces to plant and stake 40 fruit trees. It was a superb day's activity, and, we must have done quite a good job because most of the trees survived an exceedingly difficult first year. Two of the pear trees in the wettest part of the field were under water for some time and, when this was followed by almost complete drought for several weeks, they succumbed, despite a big watering operation.

In December, another gathering of villagers helped us to plant 400-500 daffodil bulbs, and in March and April we were treated to a very respectable first year display of flowering, considering the relatively late planting date. It will be better next year!

We became 'official' in March at our first AGM when our constitution was approved. At the same time, we made a start on our wildflower programme with many individuals growing on seed to produce plugs for planting. This activity, especially the involvement of schools and children's groups was unfortunately severely hit by Covid 19 lockdown and restrictions.

Throughout the spring and summer, many people walking across Church Green have enjoyed the wide variety of flowering plants and grasses not seen for many years. The new path allowing better access was also enjoyed, especially by children. Our Ecologist, Jamie, listed more than 44 different species including one spectacular find, the Pyramidal Orchid. There were also many butterflies and other insects spotted during the summer (photos of some of the plants and insects seen are shown on the back page of this magazine).

You will have seen the fabulous new information board, designed by Kate Hendry and funded by Orchard East and the Heritage Lottery Fund, installed in the summer.

What next? During the year we were successful in bidding for funds from SCDC Community Chest for two benches for the Orchard. Hopefully, these will be installed in the Spring. We have also applied for funds from the SCDC Zero Carbon fund to develop a pond area and to create a new safer accessible entrance to the Orchard, from the pavement on Station Road. Within the pond area we plan to include a hibernaculum, where amphibians and reptiles can hide away in the winter, hopefully, further increasing the biodiversity on Church Green.

Last but not least: Swavesey Community Orchard has no funds!

To date, whilst we have been successful in obtaining funding for the trees and benches, these have been grants specific to these projects, for day to day running costs, individuals on the working group have funded various activities, provided equipment and materials free of charge, but this cannot be the way forward. Several villagers have indicated a wish to support the Orchard in some way and we have decided the most practical way of achieving this is to set up a Friends of Swavesey Community Orchard Fund. This would enable us to put the orchard on a sound financial footing, undertake biodiversity projects involving village children's groups and further develop this facility for everyone in the village to enjoy. We plan to launch this initiative in the New Year. Appreciating the difficult environment in which many businesses are having to operate, we would also wish to include corporate sponsorship within this scheme where possible. I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has ideas, offers or questions relating to this or any other orchard matter.

Glyn Jones Mob. 07977 907622 Email. gj@2gsc.net

One of the city's hidden gems is now open to the public.

With recycling now mainstream, Cambridge Re-Use is selling good quality second hand furniture to all.

Founded 30 years ago as Cambridge Sofa, the charity has been providing a full range of furniture and furnishings to those on low incomes. This will continue, with discounted prices for those in this situation but at the same time, anyone can now visit the warehouse off Cherry Hinton Road to find bargains.

Cara Moorey, Cambridge Re-Use manager, said, "We are lucky as we have some beautiful furniture donated from the Cambridge area. There is a real mix of modern and antique pieces, often items that would cost a lot more elsewhere."

Cambridge Re-Use is largely staffed by volunteers and is always interested to hear from people looking to volunteer for half a day or a full day per week on the van or in the warehouse helping customers.

Open 10-4pm Monday- Saturday

Unit H, The Paddocks, 347 Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, CB1 8DH

01223 576535.

www.cambridgereuse.org.uk

(A selection of stock can be also be found on Gumtree.)

The Children's Society

In Swavesey the collection of boxes belonging to the Children's Society usually takes place in the latter part of March and into April. This year I had received about half of the boxes when the lockdown began. The society said that everything should pause so there are a number of boxes which have not been collected and counted this year. I am pleased however that during the easing time a few more came in and I have been able to bank £926.30

Thank you so much!

For those whose boxes have not been counted please you can email me on jacqui_fuller@hotmail.com or 01954 230774 and let me know if it would be convenient to collect it or if you would prefer to hold the box until March/April 2021

The children who benefit from this charity have had a particularly tough time this year as has the charity who strive to support them

Thank you for your continued support

Jacqui Fuller

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Here at the surgery we have been busy rising to the challenges of a global pandemic. However, we are still here to help you.

How you contact us will be different at the moment. This is to limit face-to-face contact whenever possible and help stop the spread of coronavirus.

Your GP practice is open and if you need to see your GP, please ring us on 01954 231550 or visit our website.

You can also call NHS 111. Please do not come to the surgery unless you have an appointment.

Appointments are being delivered face-to-face, online and over the telephone. If you are asked to come into the surgery for a face-to-face appointment, please remember to wear a face covering. Measures are in place to keep you safe from infection during your visit to the surgery.

For the latest NHS information and advice on coronavirus or to book a test visit https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

Welcome….

We have a new pharmacist - Jigar Raval he has been in post 6 months now.

We welcome Susan Bryan our new reception manager.

Dr S Thompson joined us in Aug and will be with us for a year on her GP registrar placement.

And the last few months I have been getting used to my new role as Practice Manager

Flu Vaccinations…

We are well under way of delivering vaccinations to our over 65 year old patients who are at risk, pregnant mums and 2-3year old children.

If you haven't been vaccinated yet and are in one of the above groups please check our Website or Facebook page for clinic updates

Clarity on 50-64 year old age group

Please note that people in the 50-64 year old age group will not be vaccinated until November and December, providing there is sufficient vaccine, and no appointments will be offered for this age group until then. This is to ensure that those who are most at risk are vaccinated first.

If you are 50-64 and you are in one of the other groups which are eligible for the flu vaccination, for example you have a health condition which puts you at risk from the flu, you will be vaccinated earlier

Continued on next page

If you don't fall into any of the above groups and wish to be vaccinated our pharmacy can offer a private vaccination for a small fee - please contact the pharmacy.

For further updates from the surgery please like our Facebook page Over Surgery & Pharmacy

Stay safe

Laura Byton
Practice Manager
Over Surgery

If you require urgent medical attention, or advice, when the surgery is closed please call:

The Out of Hours service on 111.

Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been providing a Community Warden scheme within Swavesey for 7 years since 2013. The service supports older people aged 60 or over to maintain their independence, health and well-being within their own homes. The Community Warden can help you with things such as;

- Doing small amounts of shopping
- Collecting prescriptions
- Reading post and making phone calls on your behalf
- Spend time with you to have a chat
- Listen to any concerns and help you find a solution

You will receive 2 weeks free trial and after that we ask for a small charge of £9.00 per week for a single person and £11.00 per week for a couple.

Here are a couple of quotes from people that use our service;

"Makes me feel safe and secure"

"I look forward to the telephone call as Tracy is always so bright and cheerful to speak to"

If you are interested and would like to know more please call Tracy on 07436102736 and she will be glad to talk to you about the service we offer.

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough age UK

Swavesey Community Warden Scheme

Are you aged 60 or over?
Would you like help to continue to live independently in your own home?
The Community Warden is able to offer assistance by providing a daily phone call (Mon-Fri) and support such as:

- **Making drinks and a light meal**
- **A home visit**
- **Collecting prescriptions**
- **Small items of shopping**
- **A listening ear**
- **Help with paperwork and making appointments**
- **Signposting to other services where appropriate**

If you are interested in this service and would like more information, please call Tracey Booth on **07436102736**

There is a **FREE** 2 week trail and then a small weekly fee afterwards if you wish to remain on the scheme.

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SCHOOLS INFORMATION

Swavesey Primary School Early Years and Playwork Centre

Wraparound Care and Early Years Provision – Mon to Fri – term-time

Registration Fee £15 per family for using Breakfast and/or After School Club
Breakfast Club 7.30 am – 8.55 am
3+ year olds to Year 6 children: £6 per child per session
After School Club 3.15 pm to 6.00 pm
For Reception to Year 6 children: £10 per child, family rate £9 per child

Early Years 9.00 am to 3.00 pm (full day) or morning (9-12/1) or afternoon (12-3)
For 2 ½ year olds to 4 year olds
Places for funded children up to 30 hours per week
Charged sessions:-
3+ year olds £13 half-day and £26 full-day
2 year olds £15 half-day and £30 full-day
£4.50 for lunch hour (12-1)

For more information and to register:-
https://www.swavesey.cambs.sch.uk/page/?title=EY+%26amp%3B+P&pid=59

Swavesey Playtimers

Tuesday 10-11.30am
In the back room of the Bethel Church, different craft activities, stories and themes each week. £2

Wednesday 10-12noon
At the Memorial Hall, singing with Sharon from 11.15am.
Family with one child, £3.
More than one child, £4.
Under 6 months. £2.

All children under 5 welcome to these term-time toddler groups. Find out what is going on from our Facebook group – "Swavesey playgroups".
A great chance to meet local parents.

Swavesey Music School

9am – 10am	Sing Up	choir	4yrs – 12yrs
10am – 11am	Rockin' Rhythms I	interactive theory lessons	4yrs – 7yrs
	Rockin' Rhythms II		8+yrs
	Rockin' Rhythms III		Grade 3+
NEW CLASS!	Rock School Rockets	guitars, drums	beginners
11am – 12pm	SMS Community Orchestra	instrumental ensemble	all levels; all ages
	Rock School	guitars, drums, vocals	9+yrs

Now in its 9th. Year!

Check out our new class: RS Rockets
Also, SMS Community Orchestra, open to all ages; adults, parents: why not pick up that instrument from youth and join us on a Saturday morning?
Email for more information and to check availability.

£4 per session!

Swavesey Music School
Swavesey Village College
Gibraltar Lane
Swavesey
CB24 4RS

http://swaveseyms.co.uk/

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CLASSES ALSO IN GIRTON HISTON & COTTENHAM

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers.

All four Swavesey Girlguiding units have returned after the summer holidays to meet virtually this term.

Rainbows: Just before the autumn term started, we had a long risk assessment signed off by our District Commissioner and met outside with seven Rainbows, they met the Brownie leaders and completed a Brownie UMA and said Goodbye to Rainbows with a Pot of Gold Ceremony. Our waiting list was opened up to those prepared to join us virtually and eight girls have settled in well, so we are full again! Our Young Leader has chosen the Climate Change Challenge badge, we are also doing lots of space things with the Shoot for the Moon challenge badge and developing our 'Skills for the Future' working on the Live Smart Skills Builder badge. Resources for these activities have been delivered to enable the girls to join in easily at home.

Brownies: We welcomed some new Brownies this term and they have settled in remarkably well considering all our meetings have been over Zoom. After a delivery of resources at the start of term, the Brownies have been working towards their Wildlife Challenge badge, and over the course of the half term have made a model of a woodland glade with pond, tree, toadstool and woodland animals. They have also redesigned the Brownie uniform, had a go at some sewing and designed their own badge, used some memorisation techniques, and found out about Beatrix Potter and all her interests.

Guides: We started our meetings over Zoom, and then were able to meet face to face (or should we say side to side) outdoors. We did some trail laying at Fen Drayton Lakes, played (light up in the dark) frisbee on the village green, and at Hale Road Allotments, we made seed bombs, bug hotels, planted indoor bulbs and had a bug hunt. The end of term was marked by a session cooking over fires.

Rangers: The girls have been looking at a number of activities under the theme of Take Action. They have looked at world and community projects to look at issues as diverse as deforestation, mental health and women's rights. They have written personal manifestos about how they can help as individuals. They have also done some fabric printing, and at the end of term, the Rangers walked to Fenstanton chip shop in the dark.

During this first half of the autumn term we have awarded and socially distanced presented the following:- Brownies: Bronze award to Skylark Congratulations!

Adult helpers are always welcome, please sign up here if you are interested or would like to know more. www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/

Rainbows and Brownies are full with waiting lists, sign your daughters up early for Rainbows, don't wait until she is 5 and her friends have started!

See:- www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

1st Swavesey Scout Group 2020

What a year it has been so far for the scout group. Face-to-face sessions stopped overnight in mid-March due to the outbreak of Covid-19. The initial few months of lockdown were very scary and uncertain for all people in the community as we all had no idea how this pandemic would affect each of us.

At first, we did not know what was best for the young people of the scout group. We decided to send emails and updates on the groups Facebook page with ideas for activities and badges that could be done whilst we were at home.

Early June we decided that we would start doing some online sessions for the Scouts. It was very nice just to say hi and to see that everyone was okay. We had lots of fun online; we played bingo, had quizzes and even tried an online scavenger hunt too. We felt it would be a good idea to carry these on throughout the summer holidays, especially as not everyone would be able to go away on holiday this year.

September arrived and the children of the community had all gone back to school, advice from the Scouts HQ was that we could now start to return to face-to-face sessions, but with limited numbers of people. This has so far been good and has worked out very well. We have had to split both the Cubs and Scouts into two groups for these activities, but it is great to return. So far, the Scouts have had a couple of hikes around the fens and droves of the village. The Cubs have had a session where they have welcomed some new starters to the group and moved some Beavers up to Cubs too. They have a couple of walks planned along the new local road over the next few weeks.

Both groups are busy planning more and more activities for the rest of the term leading up to Christmas, either face-to-face or online.

We are very lucky that both Cubs and Scouts have lots of members and both groups are almost full with more people waiting to join. Unfortunately, we do not have enough children to run a Beaver colony at the moment. With the numbers being so low, and the uncertainty of Covid-19, we have decided to postpone Beavers until Easter 2021 when we will hopefully be able to start again.

As you will all know, over the past few years we have been running a 'Christmas Post' for the people of Swavesey. It has been such an amazing thing to do and I know members of the community have really appreciated this service. **Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 and the safety of our members and those of the community we are unable to offer this service this year.** It is a great shame but we hope you understand that the health and safety of all people involved has to be our priority. We will hopefully be back again next year and will be out in force delivering your Christmas cards around the village.

If any of you would like to join the group, whether as a Beaver, Cub, Scout or as an adult volunteer then please see our updated contact details in the group pages.

Thank you ever so much for the continued support for the Scout Group and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Schoolreaders
Improving literacy + increasing life chances

Volunteers Needed to Listen to Children Read in Local Primary Schools After Lockdown

Our reading volunteers are going to be desperately needed due to Coronavirus. Thousands of children won't have had enough reading practice during lockdown. In a normal year, one in four children leave primary school unable to read well. Most children will have missed a term of school, so the reading gap is now even wider. Children who struggle with reading are more likely to live in poverty and be unemployed as adults.

Schoolreaders needs more volunteers in your local area to support children's reading and prevent them falling further behind. If you want to make a difference to a child's life, apply to become a Schoolreader. No qualifications are needed; just a love of reading and some spare time each week. The process to become a Schoolreader takes a few weeks, so please apply now so you can be ready to start as soon as it can be arranged.

To join us, please visit the website www.schoolreaders.org/volunteer-application-form or call 01234 924111 for further information.

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From Your DC - Sue Ellington

Dear All

I hope you are all staying well, as you know there are fears that this area may be hit by a second wave so please don't get too complacent. When I write this we have a very low incidence but we trebled the number of people affected last week.

Swavesey Bye-ways are unique in that there is a specific Act of Parliament which controls their maintenance but, as I have report previously, there are significant issues as the use of many of them has changed over the years. Also, the District Council are questioning their role and responsibility which creates problems for the Parish Council and local farmers who contribute to the maintenance costs. I will be working with all concerned to find a lawful and appropriate way forward.

The council has decided to set up a scheme to reduce the cost of electricity for householders - you may have read about it in the South Cambs Magazine . It is called Solar Together and is a group-buying scheme for solar panels. This is an important programme as it promises to make a small but significant dent in the district's CO_2 emissions which need to halve by 2030 for us to be on track for zero carbon by 2050. If you are interested contact SCDC.

There is continued concern at South Cambs District Council regarding the 'five year land supply' which is a shorthand way of describing a government requirement for each planning authority to be able to identify sufficient land to build 1000 houses a year for the next 5 years. You will remember that when that happened before, speculative planning applications from developers were agreed even though they fell outside the council's plan. The results of which we are currently seeing in School Lane and Middlewatch. As a positive response to concerns that the building works will cause common concerns to the village, I am chairing a liaison committee which includes representatives from all the builders, the parish Council, the highways authority, internal drainage board and county council. The first meeting went very well and we agreed to meet again in January.

During the last months the council has been calling for new sites to be considered for the next Local Plan- the consultation has produced 840 sites across South Cambs which would be sufficient for 220,000 houses but only 30,000 houses will be required. Many of these sites are extremely unlikely to be appropriate but the public will not be asked to comment until next year. This is inevitably causing much anxiety to residents, so I am pushing for the consultation on proposed sites to be brought forward so that some fears can be allieviated

Many of our villages have significant parking issues around their schools and railway stations as well as within housing estates but the police do not have the manpower to police the situation. So at the last council meeting it was agreed that the council would look into ways of introducing a Civil Parking Service. South Cambs is one of only 17 districts across the country which does not have such a service so watch this space.

Keep safe and keep in touch - I am always available if you have an issue - just phone. Cllr.Ellington@scambs.gov.uk or 07774146331 or 01954202923.

Sue Ellington
District Councillor for Swavesey ward.

SWAVESEY PARISH

Parish Council News September October 2020

COMMUNITY GRANT FUND

The Parish Council has been able to set up a new Community Grant Fund to help not-for-profit community groups who may have lost out on fundraising income during the restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Council realises that many fundraising activities have had to be cancelled this year and groups might rely on their fundraising in order to cover administration costs or to plan for future events and activities (once we are able to hold these again). Grant applications for up to £1,000 can be applied for and full details will be available on the Website and Facebook pages, or contact the Clerk at clerk@swavesey.org.uk

COUNTY COUNCIL

Concerns have been raised with the PC with respect to highway maintenance, as a result the PC has asked our County Councillor, Mandy Smith to follow up the issues affecting Over Road, Rose and Crown Road, Boxworth End and Ramper Road and others with the Highways department.

The PC considered correspondence from residents in Wallmans Lane as a result of recent flooding. The PC is to press for clearance of road gullies and drain maintenance around the village to ensure water is dispersed as quickly as possible.

Surface dressing works are planned for Rose and Crown Road in the next 18 months.

The PC asked our County Councillor to press for action from Highways England for funding to repair the roads in and around Swavesey damaged during the A14 works.

The PC discussed traffic calming issues in the village. The discussion is ongoing.

A resident raised the ongoing problem of the traffic past the school and the High Street. The PC has tried, in the past, to find a solution to a safe way to cross the road to the green and the school. A further approach to the County Council will be made.

DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Swavesey Together Group is active at present in supporting the provision of lunches for school children over holiday periods.

The Community Lifeline Scheme – an SCDC administered scheme to apply for Lifeline Pendants, which PCs are able to support by way of grant funding for their residents. The PC is to consider whether it can fund this in next year's budget subject to receiving further details.The Boxworth End bye-way is to be restored to its original width. Ongoing discussions about the maintenance of the bye-ways are planned with the SCDC.

DRAINAGE

Cllr Mr Wilderspin is working with the Middle Level Commissioners and continues to press for action on major drainage works affecting the village.

COUNCIL NEWS

The PC is working to improve the telemetry link between the Bloor Homes development and the Swavesey Drain to manage surface water from the site when river levels are high.

The works to the Turnbridge drain and Mare Fen are planned but delayed by the onset of winter.

PLANNING

The PC considered a number of planning applications.

The PC agreed to consider allowing limited parking by contractors' vehicles on the land owned by the PC and designated for recreation by Matthew Homes Ltd, who are building the 30 homes off Boxworth End.

The PC agreed its response to the Government's 'Planning for the Future' White Paper. (See the minutes of the PC for 8th October for full details on the Village Website). The changes to the planning system proposed will place increased importance on our Village Neighbourhood Plan.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Speed watch volunteers are urgently needed especially as many residents are concerned about speeding vehicles.

A local resident approached fly tippers on the recreation green and persuaded them to remove their rubbish. Well Done!!

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The PC agreed to apply for a PWLB loan of £80,000 over ten years to provide a grant to the Swavesey Village College/Football Foundation project, towards the cost of the provision and maintenance of a new 3G Sports Facility for Swavesey community and football clubs within the College Grounds.

VILLAGE MATTERS

The PC is open to approaches from residents to support a Village Market in the run up to Christmas on Market Street Green within the Christmas Lights or elsewhere, given the difficulty to hold indoor fundraising events this year.

The Community Orchard Project has approached the SCDC through the Zero Carbon Communities project for funding to manage and create improvements to the pond and wet land area of the orchard site.

TIMEBANKING

The PC agreed to continue to explore the possibility of a Timebanking scheme with adjoining Parish Councils and to find a way to support and initiate such a project.

Swavesey Parish Council
Website:- www.swavesey.org.uk

Parish Councillors	Telephone	E-mail address
Warren Wright (Chairman)	203172	will.wright48@virginmedia.com
John Pook (Vice-Chairman)	230978	pookjhn@aol.com
Martin Johnston	200605	martin.johnston1@ntlworld.com
Lisa Boyes	232603	windmillkennels@oneservice.co.uk
James Dodson	230560	shirleydodson65@gmail.com
Stuart Faben	07887 906982	stuart@fabenjoinery.com
Hannah Parish	203035	hannah.parish@niab.com
Colin Parsons	230861	colin@trinityengineeringltd.co.uk
Sandie Smith	232356	cambridgegills@hotmail.co.uk
Keith Wilderspin	230083	keith.wilderspin@btinternet.com
Doug Hunt	232478	doughuntuk@yahoo.co.uk
Clerk: Linda Miller	202982	clerk@swavesey.org.uk
District Councillor: Sue Ellington	202923	cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk
County Councillor: Mandy Smith Papworth & Swavesey Ward	230248	mandy.smith@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Memorial Hall Administrator: Nicole Mullee	07963 861791	memorialhall@swavesey.org.uk

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Contact Ben Carter on
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Mob: 07836 654252
Email: ben@bclandcrafts.co.uk
Web: www.bclandcrafts.co.uk

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Unit C1, 2 Station Road, Swavesey, CB24 4QJ
Tel: 01954 231249 Email:doug@langleyaccountants.co.uk

BETHEL
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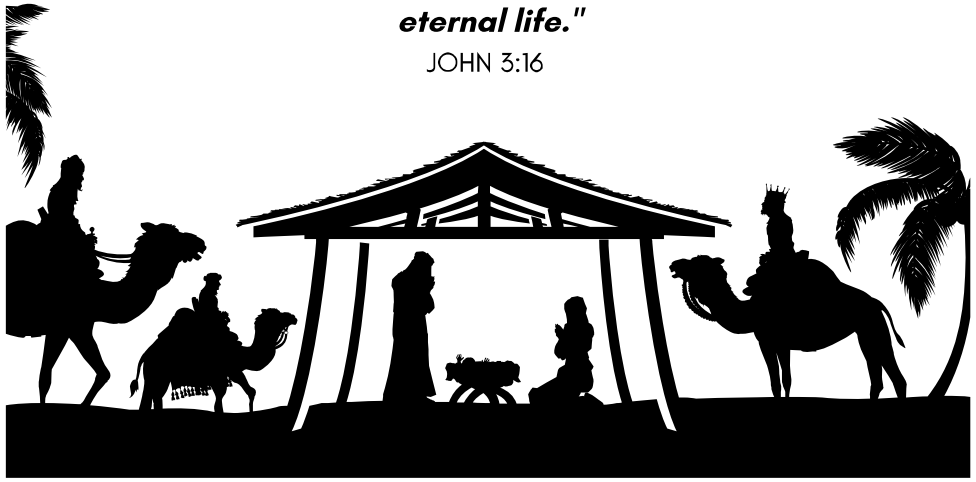
"For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

JOHN 3:16



CONTACT US

In times of uncertainty we want you to know that you can count on God, and by extension us as a church. Please do not hesitate to reach out.

Stacey Alsop (Admin) - admin@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
John Porter (Secretary) - secretary@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Wendy Whistler (Treasurer) treasurer@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Marianne Holt (Youthworker) - marianne@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Wendy Snead (Pastoral Care) - pastoralcare@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk

www.facebook.co.uk/SwaveseyBethel *www.bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk*

CHRISTMAS DURING COVID19

Please continue to check our website and Facebook for up to date information, this is especially important this year as we will of course be changing our plans in accordance with government guidelines.

On **13th December** there will be a **Christmas Sanctuary** with a Welcome to Bethlehem theme. This will go ahead either online or live.

As a village 'Carols' in it's many shapes has become an important tradition for a lot of us. At the time of planning, the ongoing restrictions from COVID19 have meant we do not think it's possible to do the Carols history justice this year. **Carols on the Screen** will be playing a different Carol each evening on the church porch from **14th - 19th December at 3.45pm & 5.30pm.** We hope we can all sing together again in 2021.

Carols by Candlelight will be on **20th December at 7pm**, this will go ahead either online or live.

Christmas Day's morning service **at 10.45am**, will be a chance to join together and celebrate. We invite children to bring any gifts they have received that morning for show and tell. Again this will go ahead either online or live.

St Andrew's News

You are always welcome at our Sunday services and on Wednesday afternoons.

It has been lovely to see so many people in church, particularly at our Harvest service in September when the table was groaning under the weight of your harvest offerings. These were taken to the Food Bank in St Ives where they were gratefully received. If you want to donate food to the St Ives Food bank, please bring it to church on Wednesday afternoon when we are open for prayer or to a Sunday service or contact a churchwarden who will arrange a collection with you. You can visit the food bank's website address to find out what their current needs are at:- http://www.stivesparishchurch.org.uk/foodbank

Christmas 2020

I am writing this on October 18th at a time when large parts of the country are already back in lockdown and other parts are facing stricter restrictions in the near future. Much as we would like to, it is impossible to predict how we might be able to celebrate Christmas in church this year. We are planning to hold a Christmas Eve Communion service at 11:30 as usual but we are likely to have to restrict the numbers attending this service. We will publicise all our services on Facebook and on our 5folds website as usual, where you can also find our online weekly services and links to other resources at: -

www.5folds.org.uk/page/simons-sermon-recordings-and-bible-index.

Contacts

Please contact our Priest in charge Simon Gill or our Team Vicar Lucy Cleland if you wish to speak to a member of the clergy. If you want information about services or church opening times, contact either of the churchwardens, Nicky Carne or Jacqui Fuller. For admin matters like baptisms, weddings or funerals, please contact our benefice administrator, Gillian Beale.

Rev Simon Gill:	01954 230434	simon@5folds.org.uk
Rev Lucy Cleland:	01954 277758	lucy@5folds.org.uk
Nicky Carne	01954 230971	nicky_carne@hotmail.com
Jacqui Fuller	01954 230774	jacqui_fuller@hotmail.com
Gillian Beale	01954 203459	admin@5folds.org.uk

Christmas Greetings to you all, from, St. Andrew's Church.

Please see our website for details of services in December and January at: www.5folds.org.uk

Introducing Revd Lucy Cleland

I write this introductory piece in October, just 6 weeks into my time in the 5folds group of churches (Swavesey, Longstanon, Over, Willingham and Northstowe). I arrived in the hazy sunshine of late summer. A small commissioning service was held in St Andrew's Church, Swavesey within the limitations of Covid-19. I am grateful for the warm welcome in Swavesey and across 5folds. Awash with colourfully knitted flowers, I will treasure the image of the beautiful cross beside the church car park.

This new chapter is a homecoming. Cambridgeshire is familiar to me having first moved here in 1997 after studying International Business and French at Aston University. A gap year became 14 happy years – in Cambridge, then Yaxley, then Waterbeach. It was a formative time in my young adult life in which I made many friends who I can now re-connect with. Since then I have ministered as a Bishop's Chaplain in Nottinghamshire and most recently as Chaplain at Scargill House – an international and ecumenical residential Christian community in the Yorkshire Dales. See www.scargillmovement.org

During the autumn, I have met people out on footpaths and streets, by phone and in Sunday worship. Look out for a new person wearing a dog collar in Swavesey and say 'hello' if you see me. I like walking outdoors, having been spoilt by a 90 acre woodland limestone terrace estate at Scargill. I don't yet have a dog but intend to find a canine companion before too long.

I enjoy the countryside and the grassroots nature of semi-rural village life. At leisure, you might find me taking exercise, following sport or listening to Christian and classical music. Food is another of my loves with curry being my favourite dish. After three years being tempted daily by puddings and cake at Scargill, I now hope to cut back. So please don't be offended if I decline sweet treats.

I hope this gives you a flavour (excuse the pun) of who I am. I look forward to getting to know the people of Swavesey. May I take this opportunity to wish you a safe and joyful Christmas. My hope and prayer is that 2021 will be a year full of promise and possibility for us all.

Revd Lucy Cleland

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RHA CPA

Community Groups & Charities

Swavesey Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	A voluntary group who meet on the first Monday each month to set out the vision for Swavesey and the planning policies needed to manage development according to the wishes of the local community. See http://www.swavesey.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/ or Email: clerk@swavesey.org.uk for more information
Cam Sight	Cam Sight is a local charity which offers support to anyone with a visual impairment, along with their family and carers. We meet on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of each month in Bar Hill. For more information please telephone Joan in Bar Hill on 01954 200622 or Alison at Cam Sight on 01223 420033 or email alison@camsight.org.uk. For more info see:- www.camsight.org.uk
Cambridgeshire Hearing Help	CHH is a charity that helps people with hearing loss. Volunteers service NHS hearing aids and provide batteries and they attend Swavesey quarterly at Thistle Green. Advice on any aspects of hearing loss is available at a hearing help session or by calling the office on 01223 416141, e-mail enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk or check the website cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk
Care Network	Care Network supports volunteers, encourages independence and develops good neighbour projects. We provide the Welcome Home from Hospital service across Cambridgeshire. Contact:- Care Network, 5 Broadway House, 149-151 St Neots Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge, CB23 7QJ (tel: 01954 211919). care-network.org.uk/
Community First Responder Scheme	The local group in Over and Swavesey has provided help over many hours and attended over 20 patients in your community. You can support the group and help to fundraise for equipment or volunteer to become a Community First Responder within your community. Contact:- responderadmin@eastamb.nhs.uk or call 01284 731802
Swavesey Library	A volunteer run community library based in Swavesey Village College. We are able to providing a full range of library facilities being directly linked to the Cambridgeshire County Council library service. For more info see:- www.swavesey.org.uk/village-link/swavesey-library
The Friends of the Rosie Hospital	The Friends of the Rosie Hospital are helping to make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies. Contact:- Mrs Mary Sanders (Hon Chair) rosieinstitches@ukonline.co.uk Tel 01223 356615
East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH)	Put your free time to good use and volunteer at East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH) in Milton. Volunteering at a children's hospice doesn't always mean care work and fundraising as there are also tasks such as admin and maintenance of the grounds. Contact:- Clare Bates on 01223 815 134, email clare.bates@each.org.uk
Community Resourcing	We have a small group of local volunteers (local residents from our community) who would like to help other members of our community with any practical tasks. Contact:- Parish Council Tel: 01954 202982 or Email: clerk@swavesey.org.uk
OWLS Community Car Scheme	Run by DBS checked volunteers the scheme offers a door-to-door service, for medical or some social journeys, to people who are unable to access other forms of transport. Ring 07505 254363 to book a journey, find out more, or to volunteer as a driver

CLUB INFORMATION

Army Cadet Force	Swavesey Detachment, No 2 (Cromwell) Company, Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force meets each Tuesday evening at the Swavesey Village College from 7 pm. New recruits are welcomed from ages 12 years (year 8) to 18 years. Contact - Sgt Phill Barrett phone 07786981380
Over District Girlguiding Swavesey and Over	**Unit** / **Evening** / **Contact** Swavesey Rainbows / Thurs / caroline@overroad.co.uk Swavesey Brownies / Mon / swaveseyeagleowl@gmail.com Swavesey Guides / Thurs / swaveseyguides@gmail.com Over Rainbows / Mon / Swavesey Rangers / Thurs / seniorsectionoverdistrict@gmail.com Over Brownies / Wed / Over Guides / Tue /
Swavesey Spartans	Swavesey Spartans are a Chartered Standard Youth Football Club affiliated to Cambridgeshire Football Association. The club runs boys and girls teams from under 6 through to under 17. For information and enquiries please contact Chairman - Gary Peet on 07976 359494 Secretary - Colin Baker on 07976 636771 Club Welfare Officer - Carolyn Merricks on 01954 20497
1st Swavesey Scout Group	All sections meet at the Scout Hut on the SVC site. **Cubs** Day: Tuesday. Time: 18:00 to 19:15 Contact: Steven Wilson - Cub Leader Email: steven.wilson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Scouts** Day: Monday. Time: 19:00 to 20:30 Contact: Jim Burling - Group Scout Leader Email: jim.burling@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk For any other Scouting enquiries Email: info@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk
Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre	Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre are based in their own purpose-built unit on the primary school site. It comprises Early Years children (aged 2 – 4 years) between 9am and 3pm (formerly Swavesey Pre School) and we provide activities and care for primary school aged children before and after school. Breakfast Club runs from 7.30 am to 9am and After School Club from 3.15pm to 6pm. For information please contact Carol Panther (Early Years and Playwork Manager) by email: eyandp@swavesey.cambs.sch.uk or by phone 01954 273312 or 07803 812221.
Swavesey Music School	Meets every Saturday of term time at Swavesey Village College. Only £3.00 per session. For further details see: www.swaveseymusic.co.uk/

Health and Wellbeing Club	A club for older adults which runs on the last Tuesday of the month with the exception of December. The group meets at the Community Centre, Thistle Green, Swavesey from 10.00 to 11.30am. Refreshments, chair-based exercises, speakers and time for conversation. No booking is required and the group is Free.
British Tang Soo Do Institute	British Tang Soo Do Institute practices the Korean martial art of Tang Soo Do. Our club training covers self defence techniques and many aspects of fitness including flexibility, coordination, conditioning, balance and discipline helping to promote a healthy lifestyle. For further information please contact Master Jeff Cockram on 07863 345681 or jeff@btsdi.co.uk or see our website: www.btsdi.com
Swavesey Tang Soo Do Club	Swavesey Tang Soo Do have classes on a Monday and Wednesday in the primary school main hall. Beginners and junior grades are 6pm-7pm and senior grades 7pm-8:15pm. The contact details are Mr and Mrs Morton 07919 050261 and enquiries@swaveseytsd.co.uk. The website is www.swaveseytsd.co.uk
Allotments in Swavesey	Down Hale Road towards the windmill and on the right there are 61 plots, mostly 150 sq yds (125 m2) in area, backed up by eight water tanks. Large yields of a wide range of high quality vegetable, fruit and flower crops can be grown successfully. If you are interested in joining the waiting list contact Russell Fear on 01954 202846.
British Legion	For information contact:- Secretary - Angela Dye. 01954 277453. email: dyeangela0@gmail.com
Swavesey Badminton Club	Located at the Swavesey Village College Sports Centre.The Club offers a high standard of play at club nights on Tuesdays 7pm to 8pm and on Fridays from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. We play competitive badminton in the Cambridge leagues and run men's, women's and mixed teams.Contact Helen Taylor on 01954 230997 Email: enquiries@swaveseybadminton.net website: www.swaveseybadminton.net
Swavesey Billiards and Snooker Club	For information/membership please contact Graeme Waites (01954 230113) Email graham.waites566@btinternet.com
Swavesey Camera Club	At Swavesey Camera Club we are proud to cater for photographers of all standards. For more information visit our website at www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk. We meet every Thursday, 7.30 - 9.30pm, Lecture Room, SVC. Non-members welcome - £4 charge (first visit free). For further details please ring Simon Shore 01954 230848
Swavesey Squash Club	Swavesey Squash Club has three international standard squash courts, in our recently refurbished clubhouse, on the Swavesey Village College site. The club has a number of weekly sessions running, suitable for beginners, improvers, and more advanced players. Unlimited use of the facility from £17 a month. A welcoming and active community club with social events and opportunities for competition. Visit our website for more details or contact Ali Loke on 07776 176866/ali@alilokesquash.com. www.swaveseysquash.com

Over Netball Club	We train on a Tuesday night 7pm till 8.30pm on the outdoor courts at Swavesey Village College. Small friendly club, play in CDNL local league, beginners/ everyone welcome. Cost £3 per session. Contact is Lindsay Foster - lindsayfoster001@gmail.com 01954 202070 or 07543 460725
Compass Cafe	Meets every Thursday morning from 10.30 until 12.00 at Bethel Baptist Church. Contact Sue Ellington on 01954 202923 or sue.ellington@virgin.net
Swavesey Community Choir	If you enjoy singing and having fun then come and join Swavesey Community Choir. We meet every Wednesday in term time in St. Cecilia's Hall at SVC, from 7.30pm - 9pm. You don't need to be able to read music and no auditions needed, tenor and bass voices particularly welcome. For further details contact Chrissie Richardson 07881 824095.Website: www.swaveseycommunitychoir.co.uk
Swavesey District Bridleway Association	A liaison group representing local horse riders whose main aim is to protect existing and create safe new horse riding links between all local villages. New members welcome. Regular Newsletter/Social events calendar. Please contact Sue Rogers (01954) 232758
Swavesey & District History Society	Meet every third Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm, Global Resources Centre, SVC. Contact Carolyn Redmayne, Secretary (01954) 230037
Swavesey Institute Football Club	New players always welcome, please contact: Phil Baines on 01954 200377 [Saturday sides] or Jerry Ladell on (01954) 201018 [Veterans side].
Linedance	Linedance classes held on Wednesday mornings at the Bethel Baptist Church 9-30 to 11-30 am. Beginners always welcome. Contact Deborah Walker 01954231382 Email: deborahwalker105@talktalk.net
Swavesey & Over Conservation Society	Meet at Bethel Baptist Church, Middlewatch Swavesey CB24 4RP commencing at 7.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month unless otherwise stated. If you need a lift: PHONE: Trevor Grange - 01954 230119 or Pat Miles - 01954 780485. Guests Are Always Welcome!
Swavesey & Over Tennis Club	Club night 1 October to 1 April is on Monday, 7.00 to 9.00pm. From 1 April - 30 September there will be club nights on both Mondays and Wednesdays. We welcome new members from anywhere in the locality. Further information from s.taylor996@btinternet.com www.swaveseyandovertennisclub.btck.co.uk
Swavesey RADSoc	Friendly local drama group staging two or three productions a year.New members always welcome.Contact: Nathalie Balzano: nathaliewoodward@hotmail.com Visit our website at www.swaveseyradsoc.org.uk
Swavesey Speakers	Develop your public speaking skills at this Toastmasters International club. Guests welcome! 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month at the Memorial Hall from 7pm to 9pm (occasional venue change). More details: www.swaveseyspeakers.toastmastersclubs.org or call/text Faye on 07908 443610.
Swavesey W.I.	We meet every second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome to enjoy a variety of invited speakers and have a chat and cup of tea/coffee afterwards. For further information contact Linda Saunders (01954) 201162

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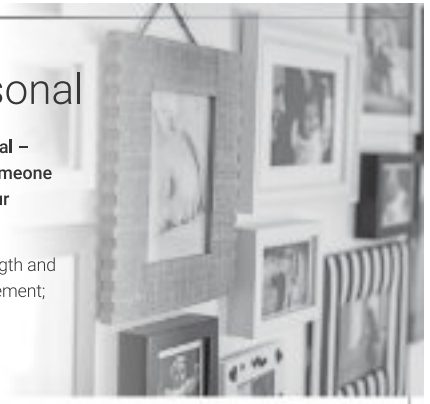

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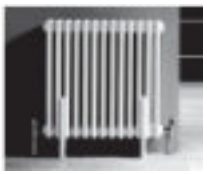

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NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR EVENTS

Please use this form to notify us of any major events you are organising so that we can publish the dates in the magazine and on the website at www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk It is hoped this will avoid major events clashing on the same day. Please send to the Editor, 14 Black Horse Lane, Swavesey.

Event _____

Location _____ Date _____ Time _____

Contact Name _____ Tel No. _____

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you would like to mark any occasion that is special to you or somebody that you know by announcing it in this magazine, please fill in the form below.

Also supply your name and contact details, and return to the Editor by the copy date. We will endeavour to include it in our next issue.

SHORT MESSAGE:

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